

WELCOME TO FEAR CITY



TIME WARP

ISSUE #1 - \$2.00



TAKE THE CITY BACK !!

TIME WARP MANIFESTO (Part 1):

While honoring the past, we aim to break through the paralyzing nostalgia for the old city. The condition of our gentrifying city will not improve if we let ourselves wallow in sadness and nostalgia. Time Warp is meant to serve as a rallying cry, resulting in a ripple effect.

Start by getting angry. Anger sparks creative response and change. Sadness leads to resigning oneself and doing nothing to help change the current negative trends.

"Someone should do something!"

You ARE someone and you CAN do something... Just use your imagination. It is NEVER too late.



TIME WARP

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TIME WARP MANIFESTO (Part 2):

★ Because *PUNK IS NOT DEAD* !!

★ Because the situation facing our city (gentrification, class war, suburban invasion, cultural sterilization and parasitism) will not improve if we allow ourselves to be paralyzed by our longing for the past. We must realize that all is not lost. We must fight to PRESERVE what remains and to RESTORE what has been lost.

★ Because we are done sitting idly by, watching as these parasites feed on our culture, contribute nothing, and DESTROY their host in the process.

★ Because we are no longer waiting for somebody to do something.

★ Because we are MAD AS HELL and we are not going to take it anymore !!

★ Because we outnumber the invaders, we have COMMUNITY, and we are ROOTED here. CAN YOU DIG IT??

★ Because THEY want to remove us from OUR FUCKIN' CITY.

★ Because our HOME is not an entertainment zone. THE PARTY IS OVER.

★ Because we need to RESIST the plan they have laid out for us.

★ Because we need a REVOLUTION.

★ Because we need to TAKE OUR CITY BACK !!

LAST NIGHT, I ESCAPED FROM THE **TIME WARP**...

The time warp is essentially a void in which one feels disconnected with or uses to avoid reality. It's a form of disassociation, a coping mechanism. Within this void, I experienced a warped perception of time, as if time was passing quickly, and the days blurred together. Little got accomplished. The time warp stems from emotions such as depression, sadness, hopelessness, and longing [for a place and time you cannot physically travel to].

As a born and raised New Yorker, I was first consumed by the time warp around when I began attending college outside of NYC. Each time I returned during school breaks, the city's negative changes were significant. When the environment changes steadily, piece by piece, one may not notice or comprehend the overall change until a later point in time. It allows the continuous NYC inhabitant to slowly become familiar with the landscape as it changes, thus easing into it.

When you leave the city for a period of time and return to be hit with the changes all at once, it may create a greater mental impact (at least initially). Upon my homecoming, I observed the typical signs of gentrification: streets filled with yuppies, hipsters, tourists, (the aforementioned are extremely sensitive and petty, requiring massive sanitization and trigger warnings) and diminishing numbers of legitimate looking New Yorkers (you know 'em when you see 'em); new businesses catering to the moneyed, trendy types; old, community-serving businesses disappearing, leaving behind a "ghost town" of empty storefronts; chunks of the city being carved out for new luxury housing, with soulless glassy buildings manifesting in little time.

That's when the despair really struck me. I returned and suddenly realized that the vast majority of my friends had moved away and the once familiar streets had been *reconfigured*. The city I love so deeply had become lonely and almost foreign to me at this point. Watching the empty faced, zombie-like figures swarm through the streets (often with heads hunched forward, zoned out on their mobile devices) and the latest luxury, bourgeois spawn hatching, I'd ask myself "*what exactly* is happening here and is there anything I can do about it?"... It

seemed hopeless for a while. There isn't much good that one insignificant person can do on their own, right? Thus, I slipped into the time warp. I forget what happened in the meantime, until one day in early August of 2014, I was encouraged to head over to Tompkins Square for a *real coooool time*...

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TAYLOR BOWEN

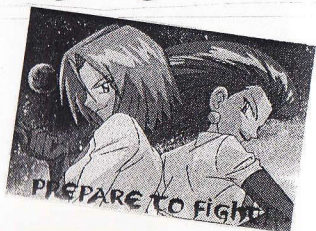
The uplifting music and community spirit during the Tompkins Square riot anniversary show ignited the latent embers within me, driving back the void and renewing my will for resistance. It made me realize that a tightly knit community still survives here and they are actively putting forth an effort to resist gentrification, just by being here, pressing forward, and continuing to create. These people are seething with anger, not sadness and resignation... and I am one of them! I am part of this community, no matter how insignificant I am and as a community member, I must do what I can to support my neighborhood and everything I love about this damn city. *I can create my own sparks.* Everyone can do something. It is never too late.

This inspired me to develop a stronger sense of place. I grew up as a witness to gentrification while also being flooded with stories of the city's wild, wild past. It's especially important to find something to serve as an anchor in this situation. During my search, I would review the history of various locations, venues, and the works of numerous local artists and musicians. I'd often explore the area's history through extensive adventuring and fantasy: finding landmarks, blocks seemingly untouched by time, spooky alleys, empty dim-lit streets, brick-lined paths, and spaces in which people are managing to keep the spirit alive.

Doing this began to pull me back into the time warp, as I found myself longing for the city's past—a world I appreciate, but have no place dwelling in. Things were great *back then*, but in many ways they're still great now and can improve further if we contribute in the ways we can. The only thing we have is this present moment and a future with multiple possible outcomes based on what we do NOW.

It all comes down to this... as a zine, Time Warp is my response to this entire crazy bullshit situation NYC is facing. I'm done feeling sad, powerless, and hopeless. I can imagine that a helluva' lot of people feel the same way. Our politicians do not represent us... they are the ones selling us out, rezoning the city and setting the stage for gentrification. No one will save us except ourselves.

— Colette



'I'm mad as hell & I'm not going to take this anymore'

"I DON'T HAVE to tell you things are bad. Everybody knows things are bad. It's the depression."

"Everybody's out of work or scared of losing their jobs. A dollar buys a nickel's worth. Banks are going bust. Shopkeepers keep a gun underneath the counter."

"Punks are running wild in the streets and nobody anywhere seems to know what to do about it and there's no end to it."

"We know the air is unfit to breathe and our food is unfit to eat, and we sit watching our TVs while some local newscaster tells us, 'To-

This is the scene from the 1976 movie "Network" that hit a nerve around the world — and won actor Peter Finch an Oscar for his portrayal of nutty, fed-up TV newscaster Howard Beale:

day we had 15 homicides and 63 violent crimes,' as if that's the way it's supposed to be."

"We know things are bad; worse than bad, they're crazy. It's like everyone, everywhere is going crazy, so we don't go out anymore."

"We sit in the house, and slowly the world we're living in is getting smaller, and all we say

is, 'Please, at least leave us alone... Just leave us alone.'"

"Well, I'm not going to leave you alone."

"I want you to get mad."

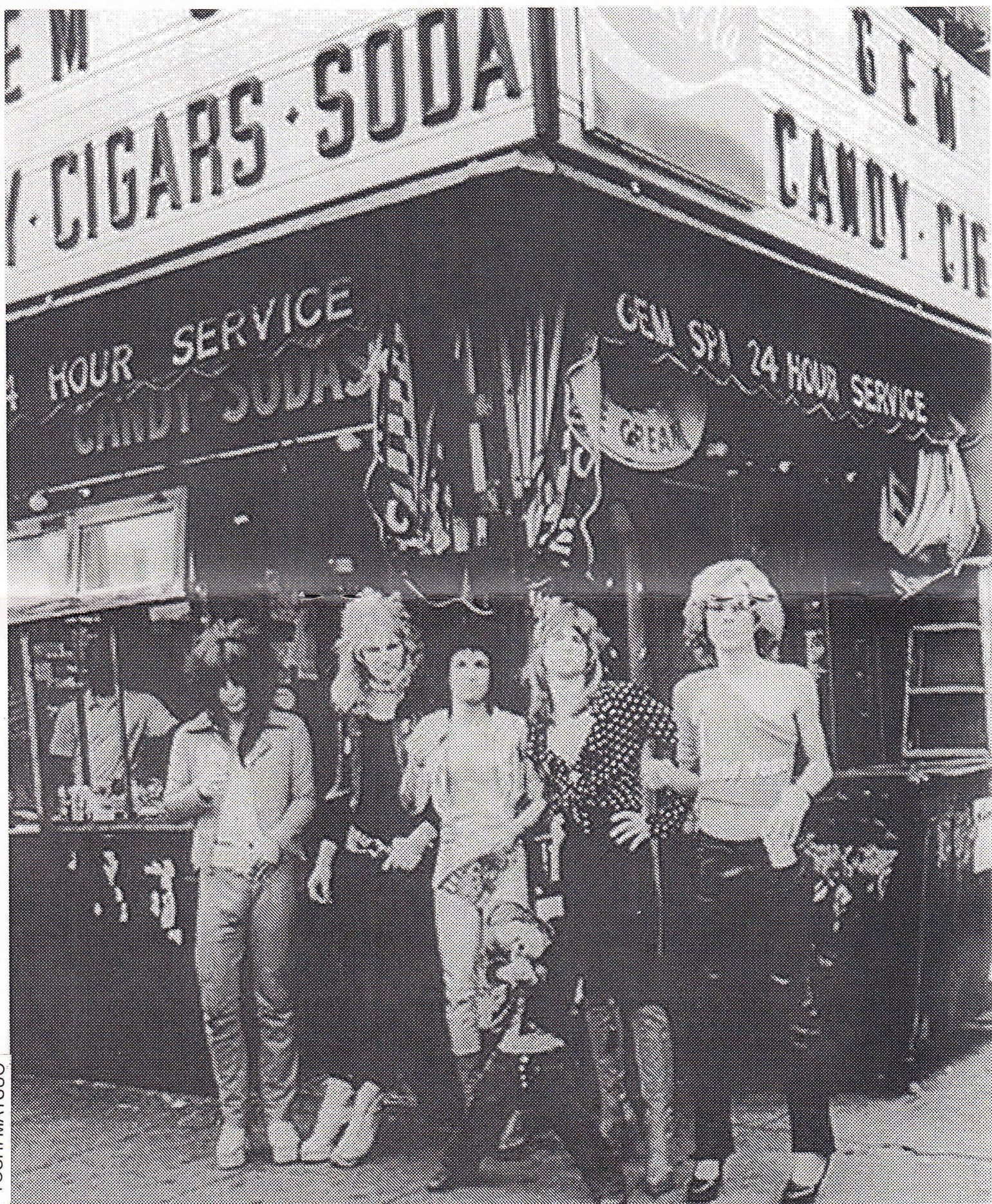
"I don't want you to protest... I don't want you to write to your congressman, because I wouldn't know what to tell you to write..."

"All I know is that first you've got to get mad."

"You've got to say, 'I'm a human being, god-damn it, my life has value...'"

"I want you to get up now, go to the window, open it and stick your head out and yell, 'I'M MAD AS HELL AND I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE THIS ANYMORE...'"





The New York Dolls at Gem Spa [Saint Mark's and 2nd Ave] - 1973

Get Angry

By Jeremiah Moss [March 7, 2016]
(<http://vanishingnewyork.blogspot.com>)

If you're on Facebook, you know about the new "reactions," a set of emojis you can choose to react to a post. Instead of just "like," you can now express: Love, Haha, Wow, Sad, and Angry. You can probably guess that this is all about collecting emotional data for the purpose of advertising. But it also provides data to the individual user about how readers are reacting to their posts.

And that confirmed something I've long suspected about the emotional state of New Yorkers--at least the ones who follow Vanishing New York.

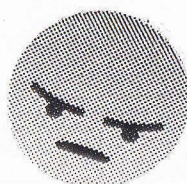
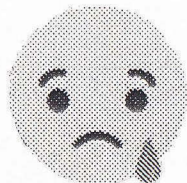
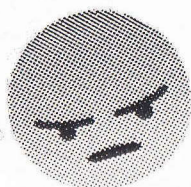
Last week, we experienced a number of losses in the city, especially in the East Village. Trash & Vaudeville left St. Mark's Place. St. Mark's Bookshop shuttered for good. The Stage restaurant announced it would not reopen. I posted the news on my Facebook page and people reacted. While the majority still used the old "like" button, many others opted for an emoji.

How do people feel about these closures? Most feel sad. And not enough feel angry.

Reacting to the news of The Stage vanishing, 22 people chose Angry while 43 chose Sad. For the closing of 69 Bayard in Chinatown, 15 were angry while 26 were sad. For Trash & Vaudeville, 80 were angry and 148 were sad. For each post, it seems that twice as many people choose sad instead of angry.

And that's not good.

While sadness is certainly a natural reaction to loss, the emotion often comes with resignation and hopelessness. It can collapse on itself, coupling with a sense of futility, and may lead to apathy. Sadness does not move anyone to take action. Sadness curls into a ball. Or it sits on the couch, clicks buttons, eats snacks, and says, "What's the point?"



Anger, on the other hand, is energizing. It helps people to move, to fight, to stand up and say "No!" Anger can lead to action and creativity. Anger can lead to positive change.

While I understand the despair and its attendant feelings of powerlessness--I feel it, too--this city needs angry people. But every time I post news of a closure, I watch the Sad faces multiply twice as fast as the Angry faces.

I suspect that you feel more sad than angry because you think that all these losses are inevitable, part of the natural cycle of normal urban change. Listen: These losses are not inevitable and they are not natural. They are the direct result of decades of public policy. And policy can be changed--but only angry people can change them.

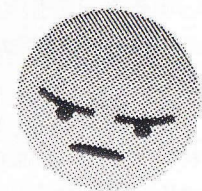
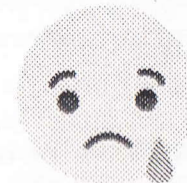
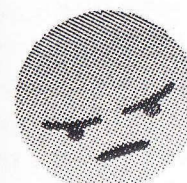
We can act up against the homogenization of our city. We can act up against hyper-gentrification. We can act up against rising rents and evictions. It is not futile. We are not powerless. But you're going to have to get angry. You're going to have to muster something better than a sad face.

Go to #SaveNYC and Take Action. Send a letter. Start a group. Organize an event, a protest, a rally. Make public art. Even simpler: Just talk about what's happening in a different way.

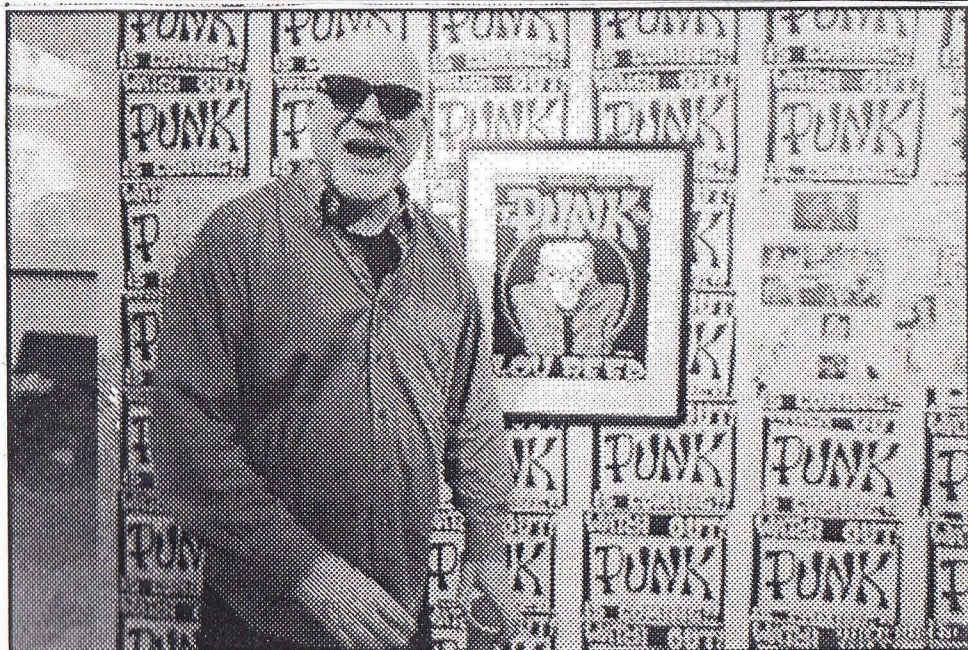
This is important. Stop saying "it's sad." Stop saying "New York is always changing." I'm sick of hearing that one. While there is of course truth in that statement, it is being used to disempower you and distract you from the truth. While we're on the topic, you are not "just being nostalgic." You are watching a city die. It is a global pandemic. It is real. And it has been engineered by the people in power. Doesn't that piss you off?

We have to change the discourse around this or we will not have a city tomorrow. At the very least, shift your emotions. An emotional shift can take us in a different direction. Get angry. Then tell your friends and families and coworkers that you're angry. Tell them that these changes are not natural. Tell them you're not just being nostalgic. And tell them what can be done to save the city.

Let New York see your angry face. It's now or never.



TIME WARP INTERVIEW



STACIE JOY

Soon after a PUNK Magazine exhibit at the Howl! Happening Space, the Time Warp crew met with Punk Mag. co-founder and editor, John Holmstrom...

Q: What does punk mean to you?

Well, the first definition that I gleaned about punk rock was from Creem magazine and it called Alice Cooper "punk of the year"... I was a big Alice Cooper fan. I listened to Alice Cooper, Iggy and the Stooges, MC5, New York Dolls. It's kinda funny, it almost kind of sounded like noise, but I love it. I still love this music. Those 'Color Purple' (Broadway show) TV commercials come on and I have to hold my ears because it sounds so dissident and horrible. Punk rock to me starts with the music. It wasn't like a lifestyle or a political movement. It was more about just self expression, thinking differently, and being different.

To me, the most interesting part was '74 to '75 because it wasn't called 'punk' yet. Nobody really knew what to call it.

You had all these great, different bands playing at CBGB's and everybody had the feeling this was going to become something big. But then as we went on, '76 was a hard year for the magazine. We brought out PUNK magazine and it was this new movement. These people were sending me all this interesting stuff and then it's kinda like, they call it proto-punk now, right?..

The Ramones were 'proto-punk' because they had long hair, they didn't fit the formula. Now, the Sex Pistols are considered the first band, but they were sorta the ones who turned it into a formula and so all these bands copied the Sex Pistols. To me, it was more interesting when people were still trying to figure out what 'punk' was. Putting the formula together, rather than following the trend. Immediately after the Sex Pistols took off in England, 'punk rock' took off. You had fashion designers selling \$600 'punk' dresses, \$30 punk t-shirts were on sale at Macy's - I mean, imagine what \$30 was worth back then... \$30 was a lot of money! So, it's kinda funny. "Punk" got co-opted very early by fashionistas and trendy-type people, but not at a mass-market level. I mean, I almost wish punk would die and then people would be forced to start something new. It seems like hip-hop and punk started off in the seventies and it's kinda convenient for people just to pick it up, and say, oh you know, "here's this great thing, let's bring it back," but maybe it'd be smarter to start something new.

Punk was never alive. I think the zombie thing is interesting because, you know, punk is like a zombie. They keep killing it, but it's still running around, looking for brains.

[The Dead Boys were] like watching the Three Stooges of punk rock. That's what the Sex Pistols were like when Sid was in the band. That one show at Randy's Rodeo in San Antonio, Texas was *amazing*. All these rednecks came out to see the Sex Pistols and beat them up. So early on, Johnny was wearing a t-shirt of two cowboys having sex. They're like, provoking the audience and then, Sid takes his guitar off and smashes it into an audience member.

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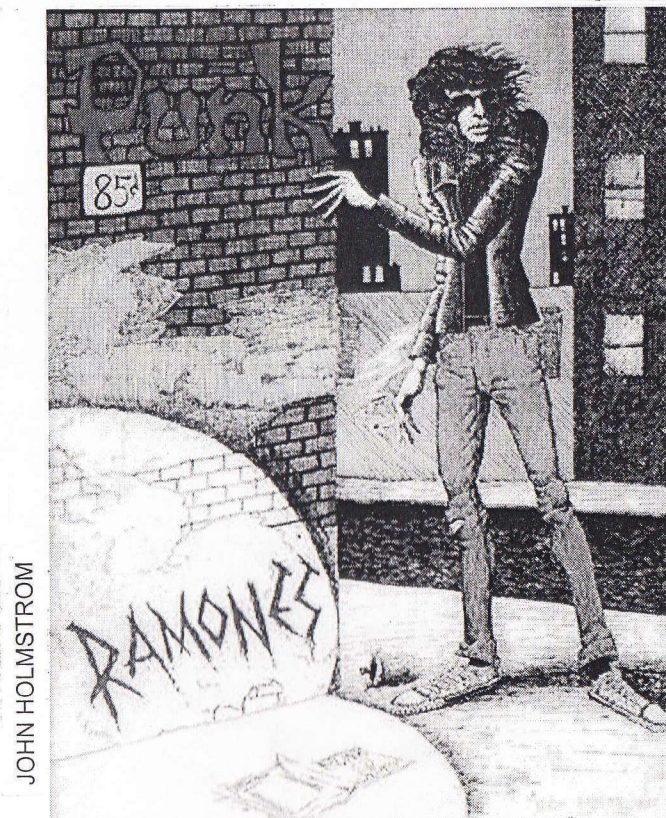


KEN HOGE

It missed the guy that was trying to heckle him and hit a record company executive, instead. Then the lights went out and you heard this weird rumble, like I really didn't know what was going to happen next. I thought they might just kill all of the Sex Pistols. And instead, the lights come on, the Pistols get back into the show, and they put on the best show I ever saw! It was like watching a wrestling match between an audience and a punk rock band. They were throwing full cans of beer at the Sex Pistols. Sid gets hit in the mouth with a full can of beer and he sticks his chin out, like 'Hit me again! Hit me again!'. By the end of the night, there were like piles and piles... it was up to your knees with beer cans by the stage. There were so many people. I think somebody hit Johnny with a plate of mashed potatoes. It was like a pie in the face.

To me, that's punk rock— that's like, so cool! That would never happen at a heavy metal show or a Madonna show, or whatever else.

I think punk rock usually stands for being provocative, especially for thought and it makes you think differently, it makes you examine the world from a different place. A lot of people are just so complacent, now. In the sixties, everyone talked about the fifties in a bad way because everyone was such a conformist. Everyone lived in a nice suburban home, and you had "Leave It To Beaver" and these little family sitcoms on TV. Well, it's ten times worse, now. All these kids are on Facebook, want to be liked and accepted by their friends. I don't know... Maybe you can get people to think differently and get them to revolt. The world is coming to an end and you're going to grow up with this stuff! You guys should be angry! You guys should be doing something to wake people up!



JOHN HOLMSTROM